

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A packaging comprising:
 a container having a neck and a body, the neck having a rim, and
 a membrane sealed around the periphery of the rim, wherein the rim
comprises at least one zone to allow sufficient grasp of the membrane for removal of the
membrane from the rim during opening of the packaging.

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 2. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the membrane has a uniform
periphery and at least one zone of the rim is provided by configuring the rim to have a
periphery that is non-uniform with respect to the membrane and that is provided within
the periphery of the membrane.

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 3. The packaging according to claim 2 wherein the membrane has a
polygonal, elliptical, oval or circular periphery and the at least one zone of the rim
provides an exposed area of the membrane to allow sufficient grasp of the membrane for
removal of the membrane from the rim during opening of the packaging.

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 4. The packaging according to claim 3, wherein the at least one zone
comprises at least one flat surface associated with the rim, wherein the flat surface allows
at least a portion of the membrane to protrude beyond the flat surface to provide the
exposed area for grasping.

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 5. The packaging according to claim 3, wherein the rim includes at least one
zone having a reduced thickness over a distance, and further wherein the reduced
thickness of the rim allows protrusion of at least a portion of the membrane to provide the
exposed area for grasping.

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 6. The packaging according to claim 3, wherein the exposed area has a width
of about 1-2cm and a depth of about 5mm relative to a membrane having a periphery of
about 12 to 22 cm.

7. The packaging according to claim 3, wherein the exposed area comprises a niche corresponding to the ergonomics of a finger or thumb.

8. The packaging according to claim 4, wherein the flat forms an angle of about 10° and 45° with the center of symmetry of the container.

9. The packaging according to claim 8, wherein the membrane protrudes from the periphery of the rim by about 4-6 mm.

10. The packaging according to claim 5, wherein the rim includes at least one zone of lesser thickness having a length of 1-2 cm.

11. The packaging according to claim 10, wherein the membrane protrudes from the periphery of the rim by about 1-3 mm.

12. The packaging according to claim 5, wherein the rim comprises diametrically opposing zones of lesser thickness.

13. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the membrane is substantially circular or substantially elliptical in shape.

14. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the container is a cup, tray or jar.

15. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the neck comprises screw thread or bosses, and wherein the packaging further includes closure means configured to be screwed or snap-fastened to the screw thread or bosses of the neck to close the package.

16. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the jar is made of glass, plastic or aluminum.

17. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the membrane comprises aluminum, plastic or paper.

18. The packaging according to claim 17, wherein the paper, plastic or the aluminum function as an oxygen barrier during sealing of the membrane to the container.

19. The packaging according to claim 1, wherein the membrane is sealed to the
5 rim of the container by a conduction, induction, sticking or ultrasound process.

20. The packaging according to claim 1 which includes a food or food-forming ingredient therein.

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